ducive to high mental or physical development, and handicapped by poverty. A devotion to his parents and a natural bent for mechanics were the two great interests in his life. "An innate and insatiable urge to make things" possessed him from early childhood throughout his life. He had a struggle to get his education and for some time made his own way as a decorator of china and glass, sometimes as a book agent, and again as a member of the crew of a Gloucester fishing schooner. He finally saved enough money to go to London "the cradle of laryngology" and get postgraduate work in laryngology under Sir Morrell Mackenzie.

His practice, which began in Pittsburgh, was among the very poor, but he soon acquired a reputation for skill in diseases of the upper air passages, the beginning of his world-wide fame in esophagoscopy and bronchoscopy. He developed in 1890 his first esophagoscope which he perfected 12 years later by adapting a light such as was in use on the cystoscope. This enabled him to see into the esophagus and soon he had brought to him many children suffering from stricture due to swallowing lye. He was so impressed by the frequency of these accidents that he devoted much of his energy to laws requiring proper labeling of such dangerous poisons, and to him more than any other person is due the law passed in 1927 requiring poison and antidote labels to be put on each such container.

After some years Jackson evolved the bronchoscope which will always bear his name, and it was perfected year by year. Before his invention the mortality among those into whose bronchi and lungs foreign bodies found their way was 98 per cent; now 98 per cent survive. It must be remembered that Jackson has a marvelous skill in operation, being ambidextrous, in addition to his mechanical genius, but fortunately he is as apt in teaching as in operating, so there are now an imposing number of skilled men in this country who have come under his influence who are doing excellent work with the aid of his instruments.

The book contains 8 pages of photographs of foreign bodies—jackstones, safety pins, tacks, staples, buttons, etc., and even false teeth—removed from patients, chiefly children. The legend on each page urges prevention of such accidents.

The book itself is an outstanding example of the printer's art. Issued in May, 1938, there have been already three reprintings. Many beautiful illustrations in color by the author show him to be a master of the pencil, brush, palette knife, dry point, and colored chalk. There are also a number of photographs. Dr. Jackson has received honors from every part of the world. His book deserves to be read widely and to find a place in private as well as public libraries, medical and lay

MAZŸCK P. RAVENEL

Health Education by Isotype—*By Otto Neurath, Ph.D., and H. E. Kleinschmidt, M.D. New York: American Public Health Association,* 1939. 32 pp. Price, $.25.

Almost every one of us, at one time or another, has had a health story to tell. Usually, when inspiration seizes us, we rush into print—or into display—hustling to get the job done while our ideas are still in their first state of white heat. Far too often the results are eloquent of the frenzied rush. If there is one thing that this pamphlet makes crystal clear, it is that reflection, planning, analysis, and critical appraisal are all essential in telling a health story.

Health Education by Isotype is a persuasive plea for the use of this visual language in interpreting health to young and old, to the erudite and to the

uneducated. Isotype is not offered as ready means for the mechanical translation of any health idea into pictures. Instead, it is suggested as a valuable medium through which the educator, working jointly with the specialist in the method, can often reveal social facts most effectively.

Varied uses of Isotype in text illustrations, as lecture aids, for classroom use, in slides and motion pictures, as well as for exhibits, are discussed briefly.

Every public health worker—administrator, engineer, nurse, as well as educator—will profit by exposing himself to this Isotype infection, for it tends to make one immune to that common ailment, "rush of brains to the head." To them all we commend this pamphlet. Its publication has been made possible through the generosity of the Carnegie Corporation of New York to which the American Public Health Association makes grateful acknowledgment. RAYMOND S. PATTERSON

Nutrition: The Newer Diagnostic Methods. *Proceedings of the Round Table on Nutrition and Public Health—Sixteenth Annual Conference of the Milbank Memorial Fund, March 29–31, 1938. New York: Milbank Memorial Fund, 1938.* 192 pp. Price, $1.00.

This volume sets forth the proceedings of the 16th annual conference of the Milbank Memorial Fund. One round table was devoted entirely to nutrition and its relation to public health. Impaired nutrition among the general population is sufficiently extensive to make it a matter of concern to public health agencies. Means must be devised to detect nutritional deficiencies long before they produce their most obvious characteristics. Work needs to be done in determining the constituents of optimal nutrition and means provided for their attainment by the average individual.

To these ends discussions were held on various methods for detecting early nutritional defects. Dr. T. Wingate Todd opened the discussion on the use of roentgenology. Drs. Hecht and Feldman presented the use of the dark adaptation test in detecting avitaminosis A. The detection of early vitamin B_1 deficiency by the use of the electrocardiograph and of specific color tests was discussed by Dr. Weiss and by Drs. Levine and Marples respectively. Dr. Spies covered the subject of nicotinic acid and its relationship to pellagra while Drs. Farmer and Abt discussed the utility of plasma ascorbic acid tests for latent avitaminosis C.

The detection of nutritional anemia by hematologic methods was presented by Dr. Guest. Dr. Youmans opened the discussion on the use of plasma protein determinations in the diagnosis of edema of nutritional origin.

The tables, graphs, and illustrations as well as the supplementary informal discussions, add greatly to the value of the record. The correlation of the experiences of different investigators in a conference of this type not only serves to promote scientific advance as a whole but their record will serve to inform and stimulate others.

IRA A. MANVILLE